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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

HISAYOSHI NAGAE, ET AL. : EXAMINER: VO, HUYEN X.

SERIAL NO: 10/743,085 :

FILED: DECEMBER 23, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2626

ALLOWED: JANUARY 15, 2008

FOR: VARIABLE VOICE RATE

APPARATUS AND VARIABLE VOICE

RATE METHOD

## COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The January 15, 2008, Notice of Allowance includes a Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which quotes language only found in claim 1. This language is not found in claim 17. In particular, it is noted that the language of claim 1 is directed to an apparatus, while claim 17 is directed to a method. The Applicants believe that it is clear that claim 17 was allowed for the language recited therein, and not for the reasons noted in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance that appear to apply to claims 1-3.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters

Registration No. 28,870

Carl E. Schlier

Registration No. 34,426

Attorneys of Record

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/07)